

10-2353

STATINTL

March 27, 1958

Reverend William Sloane Coffin
Chaplain of Yale University
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Rev. Coffin:

I have just received word of your recent appointment as Chaplain of Yale University, and would like to take this opportunity to wish you every success in the years that lie ahead.

With my kindest regards.

Sincerely,

SECRET
Allen W. Dulles
Director

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PhD Speed-up?

By Ben Schenck

Faculty reaction to a New York "Times" article decrying the present master's and doctoral degree programs in the nation's colleges and universities showed general agreement with the sentiment of the article, and presented several proposals for solving the problem.

The article, written by Benjamin Fine in the March 2 issue, said that one of the major reasons for the present growing shortage of school and college teachers lay in the inability or unwillingness of prospective teachers to spend the necessary time to procure a doctor of philosophy degree.

Fine referred to the annual report of the President of Smith College, Dr. Benjamin F. Wright, which reported that the work for a Ph. D. is not completed, in many cases, until ten to fifteen years after graduation from college.

Emphasis on Research

Fine attributed to Wright, with other prominent educators, the complaint that "too much emphasis is placed upon the research or thesis side of the Ph. D." and that "the Ph. D. program is often too rigid and regimented".

Ralph Winch, Professor of Physics, stated that he did not think that the Ph. D., as a research degree, "should be tampered with". He suggested that an alternate degree should be established for persons who are primarily inter-

This degree would have equivalent status to the Ph. D. but would concentrate on teaching rather than research.

A physics professor felt that his training was primarily in teaching, though perhaps not directly in a teaching career.

Anson Piper, Associate Professor of Languages, agreed, "on the whole" with the article.

Piper felt that the present Ph. D. program is excellent for men who intend to do research in a field of research, but that it was not good for teacher preparation. He proposed that the Ph. D. be established for research scholars, and a new degree for teachers in liberal arts.

Piper spent eight years, also earning a Ph. D. in the field of languages, but that the time perhaps could have been spent.

RECC Harvar

Williams graduates generally have an intellectual attitude to a recent RECC

Harvard law truth in the law to death the first second, and bore. First year law students studying over two years. Kirkwood, for, felt his public law courses at Williams adjustment to law are much more fitting, and students

Although the required at William dies, he believes that for law school is and abstract your he had learned to. Despite the increase he still has time for

Vernon Squire, a student, believes his especially good public law is research. "I did not see out of class," he said, "graduate days. I was more of a recital as I could have." He said that a fifteen page assignment he may spend several days through it. Squire said that activities at Williams are against over-extension well in graduate school. He said that he was on academic probation